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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Continue Implementation and Administration, and Consider Further Development of, California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Rulemaking 15-02-020
(Filed February 26, 2015)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING (1) ISSUING AN ENERGY
DIVISION STAFF PAPER ON INCORPORATING LAND USE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION INTO THE RPS CALCULATOR AND
DEVELOPING AND SELECTING RPS CALCULATOR PORTFOLIOS;
(2) ENTERING THE STAFF PAPER INTO THE RECORD, AND
(3) SETTING A COMMENT SCHEDULE**

Summary

This ruling serves to issue, and to enter into the record, Energy Division's *Staff Paper on Incorporating Land Use and Environmental Information into the RPS Calculator and Developing and Selecting RPS Calculator Portfolios*. ("Staff Paper.") This ruling also establishes a schedule for providing comments on the *Staff Paper*. Finally, this ruling places the parties on notice that a workshop will be scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2015. The dates for the workshop will be set forth in a future ruling.

1. Background

In October 2014, a staff proposal^[1] for overhauling the RPS Calculator was entered into the record of Rulemaking (R.) 11-05-005 by way of the Administrative Law Judge's Ruling filed October 10, 2014 that: (1) Issued an Energy Division staff proposal on the Renewables Portfolio Standards Calculator; (2) Entered the staff proposal into the record, and (3) Set a comment and workshop Schedule.^[2] The staff proposal outlined three tracks for further development of the RPS Calculator: Track 1, Track 2a, and Track 2b.

Track 1 was intended to produce RPS Calculator portfolios for the purpose of enabling the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) to perform a special study on >33% RPS scenarios as part of the 2015-2016 Transmission Planning Process ("TPP").

Track 2a was intended to develop portfolios for use in the 2016 Long Term Procurement Plan ("LTPP") and policy-preferred portfolios for the 2016-2017 CAISO TPP.

Track 2b was intended to consider in greater detail several additional issues, including how best to incorporate environmental information into the RPS Calculator.

All Track 2a and Track 2b issues relating to the RPS Calculator were not resolved by the time R.11-05-005 was closed. Thus, it is necessary to continue the evaluation and resolution of the remaining Track 2a and Track 2b issues in the instant proceeding. As such, the purpose of this ruling is to:

^[1] <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M119/K145/119145136.PDF>

^[2] This proceeding is the successor proceeding to R.11-05-005. The record of R.11-05-005 was transferred to this proceeding by Ordering Paragraph 17 of R.15-02-020.

- Introduce into the record the *Staff Paper* describing outstanding issues in Tracks 2a and 2b of the RPS Calculator overhaul process;
- Solicit proposals from parties on a methodology for incorporating land use and environmental information into the RPS Calculator; and
- Solicit proposals from parties on a process for developing and selecting RPS Calculator portfolios that appropriately align with the inputs, outputs, and timing of LTPP and TPP.

2. Comments/Instructions

In their comments, the parties shall address the following:

- Do you agree with the guiding principles for developing RPS Calculator Portfolios listed in the *Staff Paper* at page 5, which is appended to this ruling as Attachment A?
- Are there any principles you would add, remove, or modify? If so, which ones, and why?
- When answering questions posed in sections 6 (Options for Representing Land Use and Environmental Information in the RPS Calculator) and 7 (Criteria for Developing RPS Calculator Portfolios) of the *Staff Paper*, the responses shall refer to the guiding principles on page 5 of the *Staff Paper*. The responses shall also note clearly which question(s) you are responding to.

3. Protocol for Submitting Environmental Methodology Proposals

The parties shall follow the protocol set forth in Appendix D to the *Staff Paper*.

4. Deadline for Comments

Parties shall file comments to the *Staff Paper* on or before 30 days after the date of this ruling. Response comments may be filed within 15 days thereafter.

5. Workshop

Staff intends to hold a public workshop in the fourth quarter of 2015 to further explore the potential scope of data sources, methodologies, and processes for reflecting land use considerations in RPS Calculator portfolios and for selecting RPS Calculator portfolios for use in LTPP and TPP.

IT IS RULED that:

1. The attached *Staff Proposal* by Energy Division is entered into the record of this proceeding.
2. Comments to the attached *Staff Proposal* shall be filed in this proceeding according to the schedule herein.
3. A workshop will be held in this proceeding in the fourth quarter of 2015. A further ruling shall set forth the date and time of the workshop.

Dated August 28, 2015, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ROBERT M. MASON III

Robert M. Mason III
Administrative Law Judge

ATTACHMENT A

ATTACHMENT A

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Energy Division's Staff Paper on Incorporating Land Use and Environmental Information into the RPS Calculator and Developing and Selecting RPS Calculator Portfolios

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/9804E507-12E3-4FF3-818A-FEF96EA97940/0/RPSCalc_LandUsePortSelStaffPaper_20150825.pdf

RPS Calculator Land use and Portfolio Selection Staff Paper